

Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-60. (Cancelled)

61. (New) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} A''_n & A''_n$$

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \le 4$ and $q + r \le 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \le 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may



be in the E or 2 configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R-or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} falkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; -NHR'''; - NR_2''' ; -OH; -OR'''; - $CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; -NHR'''; - NR_2''' ; -OH; -OR'''; nalogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; or $-(CH_2)_x$ -Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; optionally substituted C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; optionally substituted C_0 - C_{10} aryl; or NR_2 ''' represents a cyclic molety.

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1 - C_{20} acylamino; C_1 - C_{20} acyloxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkanoyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2 - C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

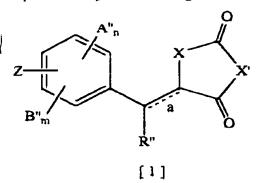


or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'", -O-, or -S-.

- 62. (New) A method according to claim 61, wherein R' represents -CO₂R'''; or -CONR₂'''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl or at least one R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.
 - 63. (New) A method according to claim 60, wherein R' represents -CO₂R''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl.
 - 64. (New) A method according to claim 61 wherein R' represents -CONR₃''' wherein both R''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.
 - 65. (New) A method according to claim 61, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
 - 66. (New) A method according to claim 62, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
 - 67. (New) A method according to claim 63, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
 - 68. (New) A method according to claim 64, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 69. (New) A method according to claim 62, wherein a represents a single bond and b represents a double bond.
 - 70. (New) A method according to claim 62, wherein at least two A groups represent methoxy.
 - 71. (New) A method according to claim 62, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen bond.

- 72. (New) A method according to claim 70, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen bond.
- 73. (New) A method according to claim 61, wherein R' is carbomethoxy and A is methoxy.
- 74 (New) The method of claim 61 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.
 - 75. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.
 - 76. (New). A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is

H; A"; or B";

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \le 4$ and $q + r \le 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \le 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R-or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; -NHR'''; - NR_2''' ; -OH; -OR'''; - $CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; -NHR'''; - NR_2''' ; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; or $-(CH_2)_4$ -Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; optionally substituted C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; optionally substituted C_0 - C_{10} aryl; or NR_2 ''' represents a cyclic moiety.

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1 - C_{20} acylamino; C_1 - C_{20} acyloxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkanoyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

A" independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1 - C_{20} acylamino; C_1 - C_{20} acyloxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkanoyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; C_1 - C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2 - C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

- (New) A method according to claim 76, wherein R' represents -CO₂R'''; or -CONR₂'''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl or at least one R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.
- 78. (New) A method according to claim 76, wherein R' represents -CO₂R''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl.
- 79. (New) A method according to claim 76, wherein R' represents -CONR₂'''' wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.
 - 80. (New) A method according to claim 76, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

- 81. (New) A method according to claim 77, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 82. (New) A method according to claim 78, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 83. (New) A method according to claim 79, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 84. (New) A method according to claim 77, wherein a represents a single bond and b represents a double bond.
- 85. (New) A method according to claim 77, wherein at least two A groups represent methoxy.
- 86. (New) A method according to claim 77, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen bond.
- 87. (New) A method according to claim 85, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen bond.
- 88. (New) A method according to claim 76, wherein R' is carbomethoxy and A is methoxy.
- 89. (New) The method of claim 76 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.
- 90. (New) The method of claim 77 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

(New) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a 91. subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \le 4$ and $q + m \le 4$ $r \le 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \le 5$; a, b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds

may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; -CONR₂''''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; -NHR'''; - NR_2''' ; -OR'''; - $CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; - NH_2 ; - NH_2 ''; - NR_2''' ; -OH; -OR'''; nalogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R"' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; or $-(CH_2)_x$ -Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; optionally substituted C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; optionally substituted C_0 - C_{10} aryl; or NR_2 ''' represents a cyclic moiety.

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-jon;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1 - C_{20} acylamino; C_1 - C_{20} acyloxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkanoyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

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B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2 - C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'", -O-, or -S-.

- 92. (New) A method according to claim 91, wherein R' represents -CO₂R'''; or -CONR₂''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl or at least one R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.
- 93. (New) A method according to claim 91, wherein R' represents -CO₂R''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl.
- 94. (New) A method according to claim 91, wherein R' represents -CONR₂'''' wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.
- 95. (New) A method according to claim 91, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 96. (New) A method according to claim 92, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 97. (New) A method according to claim 93, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 98. (New) A method according to claim 94, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 99. (New) A method according to claim 92, wherein a represents a single bond and b represents a double bond.

- 100. (New) A method according to claim 92, wherein at least two A groups represent methoxy.
- 101. (New) A method according to claim 92, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen bond.
- 102. (New) A method according to claim 100, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen bond.
- 103. (New) A method according to claim 91, wherein R' is carbomethoxy and A is methoxy.
- 104. (New) The method of claim 91 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.
- 105. (New) The method of claim 92 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.
- 106. (New) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

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wherein Z is

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \le 4$ and $q + r \le 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \le 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R-or S-configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; -NHR'''; - NR_2''' ; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; -NHR'''; - NR_2''' ; -OH; -OR'''; nalogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; or $-(CH_2)_x$ -Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1 - C_{20} acylamino; C_1 - C_{20} acyloxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkanoyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

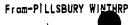
B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2 - C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'", -O-, or -S-.

107. (New) A method according to claim 106, wherein R' represents -CO₂R''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl.

- 108. (New) A method according to claim 106, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 109. (New) A method according to claim 107, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 110. (New). A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} A^{"}_{n} \\ B^{"}_{m} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^{"}_{n}$$

$$A^{"}_{$$

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is

H; A"; or B";

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \le 4$ and $q + r \le 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \le 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R-or S-configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; - NH_2 ''; - NR_2 '''; -OH; -OR''';

halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C2-C20 alkenyl;

R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C1-C20 alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; -NHR'''; - NR_2''' ; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C1-C20 alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C1-C20 alkyl; linear or branched C2-C20 alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1 - C_{20} acylamino; C_1 - C_{20} acyloxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkanoyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; C_1 - C_{20} alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

A" independently represent a hydrogen atom; C1-C20 acylamino; C1-C20 acyloxy; C1-C20 alkanoyl; C1-C20 alkoxycarbonyl; C1-C20 alkylamino; C1-C20 alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C2-C20 alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C1-C20 alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'", -O-, or -S-.

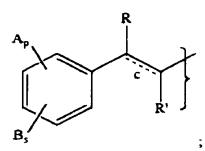
111. (New) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} A^{n} & A^{n} & A^{n} \\ B^{n} & A^{n} & A^{n} \\ B^{n} & A^{n} & A^{n} \\ A^{n} & A^{n}$$

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is

or



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \le 4$ and $q + r \le 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \le 5$, a, b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; - NH_2 "; - NR_2''' ; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; - NH_2 "; - NR_2''' ; -OR'''; -OR'''; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{30} alkenyl;

R" independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; - CO_2Z' ; - CO_2R''' ; - NH_2 ; - NH_2 "; - NH_2 "; - NH_2 "; -OH; -OR''', halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; or $-(CH_2)_s$ -Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C_1 - C_{20} acylamino; C_1 - C_{20} acyloxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkanoyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxycarbonyl; C_1 - C_{20} alkoxy; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; C_1 - C_{20} alkylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C_2 - C_{20} alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'", -O-, or -S-.

112. (New) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

113. (New) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide in a physiologically acceptable carrier.



114. (New) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 5-(4-(4-(1-carbomethoxy-2-)3,5-dimethoxy phenyl) ethenyl)-phenoxy)-benzyl)-2,4-thiazolidincdione in a physiologically acceptable carrier.